

## **TOOLBOX TALK #26**

### **PARKING LOT SAFETY**

Parking lots can be a safety risk for workers, especially during low light hours. When you are returning to your vehicle, always try to walk with a coworker or security officer. Then give your escort a ride back to their vehicle or the building.

Other tips include:

- Park in a highly visible and well-lit area near your building.
- If you park in a garage, look for a spot near the parking attendant, if there is one, or near the stairs or a well-lit exit.
- Use the main building or site entrances. Avoid rear or secluded exits.
- Have your keys out and ready as you approach your vehicle. Don't approach anyone loitering near your vehicle. Walk to a safe place, and then call the police.
- Lock the doors and keep the windows rolled up once you're in the vehicle.

If you have to walk alone, follow these five tips:

- Have a coworker watch you from a window.
- Wave to them on your way to your vehicle.
- Wave even if no one is watching to give the illusion that someone is watching you return to your vehicle.
- Always be alert to your surroundings. Keep your head up and look around.
- Don't wear headphones or talk on the phone. These devices can create distractions.

